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## SHERPA CONFERENCE

Highlights report available online

The SHERPA Annual Conference took place on 30 November and 1 December 2020. Over two days, around 100 participants discussed the contributions of the project to the common vision for 2040 and how to effectively engage stakeholders through the Multi-Actor Platforms.

[See presentations](#)[Read the report](#)[Watch videos](#)

## SHERPA NEWS



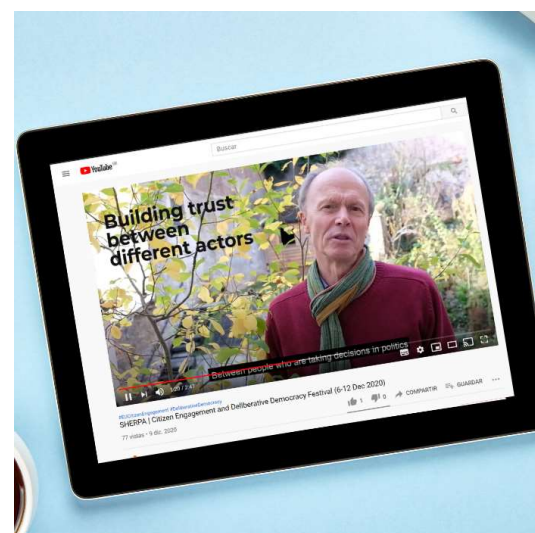
### Expert panel: 'Acting on the Long-Term Vision now!'

During the SHERPA Annual Conference, three high-level speakers from civil society, policy and science sectors gave their views on how to act on the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas: Mario Milouchev, Director of DG AGRI; Hannes Lorenzen, from Forum Synergies and member of the EU MAP; and Karen Refsgaard, Research Director at Nordregio.

[Watch the session](#)

### SHERPA selected for the Citizens Democracy Festival

DG AGRI and the SHERPA project produced a video for the European Commission's 3rd Annual Citizen Engagement and Deliberative Democracy Festival, that took place between 6-12 December 2020. The main topics of the festival focused on how democracy is changing and how citizens can participate in this change.

[Watch the video](#)

### Resilience & transformation of European food systems

The European Commission's Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) published a report gathering the work and results of the SCAR Foresight





the main results of the work undertaken, highlighting three pathways for a transition towards a just and sustainable food system in Europe.

[Read more](#)

## MAPS IN FOCUS



### EU MAP moves forward on the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas

The Coordination Group of the EU Multi-Actor Platform (EU MAP) met for the second time on 19 November 2020 to continue working on the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas. Building on the outcomes of the first meeting held in October 2020, the team of experts further reflected on the desirable future for rural areas in 2040 and looked at how to achieve it.

[Read more](#)



### EU MAP discusses biodiversity and landscape features

On 19 December 2020, the EU Multi-Actor Platform (EU MAP) discussed the draft SHERPA Position Paper on 'Rural policies to protect and enhance biodiversity through landscape features', the result of the first exercise piloting the SHERPA methodology. The meeting also helped to finalise the EU MAP contribution to the Discussion Paper on the LTVRA.

[Read more](#)

## EUROPEAN NEWS



### Have your say on biodiversity!

The European Commission has recently launched a public consultation on EU's Biodiversity policy initiatives. The consultation is **open until 5 April 2021**.

### Stakeholder engagement toolkit for the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas

DG AGRI has launched a toolkit to support National Rural Networks and local actors to engage with rural citizens and explore their ideal vision for the future of their own rural area. This process – "Welcome to our rural" – offers a channel for rural people to contribute to the European Commission's Communication on a Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas.

[Read more](#)

Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; b) review of the application of the EU Regulation on Invasive Alien Species; and c) development of legally binding EU nature restoration targets for 2030.

[Read more](#)



## OTHER H2020 PROJECTS



### Rubizmo Café Talks

Every week of January, February and March 2021, the RUBIZMO H2020 project is organising 30' café talks on rural innovation. These quick and easy to access 30-minute "Café sessions" and virtual visits will take place every Tuesday 11:00-11:30 CET. Tune in!

[Read more](#)



### H2020 cluster meeting

On 12 November 2020, the Research Executive Agency (REA) of the European Commission, with the support from SHERPA, organised a cluster meeting bringing together 19 Horizon 2020 projects working on rural policy and the Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas.

[Read more](#)

## EVENTS

27 Jan. 2021

Online

**3rd meeting of the ENRD Thematic Group on the Long Term Rural Vision**

09 Feb. 2021

Online

**Preparing the CAP Strategic Plans: programming regional-level interventions**

11 Feb. 2021

Online

**19th National Rural Networks Meeting**

11-14 Oct. 2021

Brussels (BE)

**European Week of Regions and Cities 2021**

Don't miss any updates!  
Click on the icons below and follow the project online!



SHERPA receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 862448. The content of this document does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Responsibility for the information and views expressed therein lies entirely with the author(s).

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